Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 EB-11 ACDA-19 DRC-01

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 5926

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: MARR, US, NATO ENGR

SUBJECT: CEP: SCEPC OIL SCENARIO FOR EXERCISE HILEX-6

REF A. USNATO 5467; B. USNATO 5779; C. USNATO 5863

INTERIOR FOR OOG; SECDEF FOR OASD I&L; COMMERCE FOR BODC & MARAD

SUMMARY: AS RESULT OF NETHERLANDS DEMARCHE CONCERNING SENSITIVITY OF OIL SUPPLY INFORMATION AND MISSION'S APPRECIATION OF FACT, COMPROMISE DECISION OF HILEX-6 OIL SCENARIO IS BEING RECOMMENDED TO BOTH CAPITALS. END SUMMARY.

1. NETHERLANDS AND US CEP REPS, AS RESULT OF REF C,
AGREED DECEMBER 4 TO INTERRUPT SILENCE PROCEDURE, ON
DRAFT DECISION (REF B). CHAIRMAN, SCEPC, WAS NOTIFIED AND
HE POSTPONED COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ANTICIPATED FOR DECEMBER 5
UNTIL PROPOSED DECISION, SET FORTH BELOW IS AGREED TO
IN BOTH CAPITALS.
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2. PROPOSED DRAFT DECISION, WHILE NOT REVERTING TO SCOPE OF ORIGINAL OIL SCENARIO, IS EXPECTED TO PERMIT SUFFICIENT EXERCISE ACTIVITY, AT REINFORCED SCEPC LEVEL, FOR THE TESTING OF CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES IN COMMITTEE AND BY

PETROLEUM CONSULTANTS EXPECTED TO SUPPORT SCEPC DURING EXERCISE. PROPOSAL SCRAPS DRAFT DECISION (REF B) WHICH, WOULD HAVE EXCLUDED ANY DISCUSSION OF OIL PROBLEMS IN HILEX-6.

E. PROPOSED DECISION, AS DRAFTED BY NETHERLANDS AND US CEP REPS FOR SUBMISSION TO SCEPC EXPANDS ON DRAFT DECISION REPORTED IN REF A AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE -1. AGREED THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE SETTING FOR OIL PLAY IN EXERCISE HILEX-6 SHOULD BE SEVERLY SCALED DOWN IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBLE EMBARRASSING COMPARISONS WITH THE PREVAILING SITUATION. ACCORDINGLY, SOME BASIC ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF OIL AND THE LEVEL OF OIL STOCKS SHOULD BE MADE, IF REQUIRED, TO ENABLE THE MAIN EXERCISE TO CONTINUE, BUT ACTIVITY RELATED TO OIL SHORTAGES WILL BE KEPT TO THE MINIMUM;

- 2. IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, AGREED THAT THE SHORT-FALL OF TOTAL OIL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE AS SPECIFIED IN PARA 1 OF THE PPC REPORT OF 28TH NOVEMBER, 1973, ON THE CURRENT OIL SITUATION, AND WILL FORM THE BASIS OF THE PREVAILING OIL SITUATION IN REGARD TO THE SETTING FOR EXERCISE HILEX-6 AND THE STATISTICAL DATA IN AC/287-(H-6)-WP/2(2ND REVISE) WILL BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY;
- 3. FURTHERMORE, AGREED THAT OIL PLAY AT NATO HQ IN EXERCISE HILEX-6 WILL BE LIMITED TO TESTING, AS APPROPRIATE, OF AGREED CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES AT THE LEVEL OF THE REINFORCED SCEPC ONLY. CAPITALS AND MNC'S WILL NOT BE INVOLVED IN THIS PLAY BUT WILL BE SIMULATED BY THE DIRECTING STAFF;

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- 4 FINALLY, AGREED THAT THE MERCHANT SHIPPING PLAY, AT THE LEVEL OF THE DPC, MAY INVOLVE TANKERS. END QUOTE.
- 4. REQUEST COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE PROPOSED DRAFT DECISION BY DECEMBER 7, SO THAT TEXT MAY BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER CEP REPS. OTHERWISE, REQUEST THE US REP COMING FROM WASHINGTON, TO REINFORCED SCEP DECEMBER 12-14 MEETING, BE PREPARED TO DISTRIBUTE TEXT IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION UNDER AGENDA ITEM III CEP PARTICIPATION IN EXERCISE HILEX-6. RUMSFELD.

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